

## Silas Marner

- **Silas Marner is a simple, honest and kind hearted weaver. He lived for fifteen years in a cottage on the outskirts of a village called Raveloe. The villagers are Somewhat suspicious of him: he is a newcomer he is different from them. He has come from the town his appearance is off-putting, for he is pallid and undersized, short- sighted with large brown protuberant eyes, he is liable to fits, he has knowledge of herbs that can cure some illnesses and he does not want to mix with other members of the community.**
- **The members of his religious sect in Lantern Yard, accused him that he was stealing the money of the chairman of the charity.**
- **Silas had been betrayed by his best friend William Dane who stole the money of the chairman of the charity when Silas was unconscious from one of his fits.**
- **William confesses to the church people that Silas has stolen some money. Silas declares his innocence and agrees to the drawing of lots ( in**

**which the sect believed thanking his sanctioned by the Bible) the lots however declared Silas guilty.**

- Silas knew that William had taken the money, but he hasn't accused him because he believed his innocence would be proved by God. The next day Sarah, who was engaged to marry him broke-off the engagement (she married Willam Dane a month later). Silas loses everything, he left his town (Lantern Yard) his faith in God and man completely lost.**
- So, Silas decided to go to live in Raveloe in a small cottage by the quarry. He works hard and earns lots of money, but he lives lonely life and rarely mixes with other people.**
- Silas becomes infatuated with the money, he earns from his work and hoards it. He keeps its hoard of gold coins in the bag in the hole under the floor and every night he pulls his gold out its hiding place he carries on in this way for fifteen years.**
- In the village Raveloe, Squire Cass is the richest and most important person. He has four sons. The eldest Godfrey is somewhat weak character, over-indulged by his father. He has a secret marriage with Molly Farren, a drug addict, and he is afraid that the Squire disinherits him if he hears of that marriage.**

- **Another son is Dunstan, a drunken man and a liar aswell. Dunstan knows that Godfrey has secretly married to Molly. He blackmails him with threats to reveal his marriage to their father.**
- **So, Godfrey gives Dunstan 100 pounds of rent**  
**Money paid to him by one of their father's tenants.**
- **Godfrey decides to tell his father the truth but he cannot face losing his inheritance and Nancy Lammeter. Instead, he decided that to let Dunstan to sell his horse to get money he needs.**
- **The next day, Dunstan meets his friends who are hunting, and negotiates the sale of horses. He decides to participate in the hunt before finalizing the sale** and in so doing , he has a riding accident that kills the horse (Wild Fire).
- **After that, Dunstan walks back to Reveloe in fog and sees the door of Silas's cottage open. He discovers the gold and makes off with it. Silas, who had gone out of water, returns and find the money gone.**
- **Silas thinks that it has perhaps been stolen by Jem Rondey, a local mole – catcher and poacher, and goes to the Rainbow Inn to declare the theft in the**

hope that the squire and the powerful men in the village will help to recover his money.

- Silas accuses Rondey but when his charges are denied he apologizes. Eventually Dowals the farrier and the landlord accompany Silas back to his cottage to look for clues.
- The villagers feel sorry for Silas and agree to help him by searching his house for clues. It is suggested that a peddler who came through the village some time before, has stolen the money. Meanwhile, Godfrey is distracted by thoughts of Dunstan, who had not returned home.
- After hearing that Wildfire has been found dead, Godfrey decides to tell his father about the money, though not about his marriage. The Squire flies into a rage at the news, but does not do anything drastic to punish Godfrey.
- Silas is utterly disconsolate at the loss of his gold and numbly continues his weaving. Some of the townspeople stops by to offer their condolences and advice. Among these visitors, Dolly Winthrop stands out. Like many of the others , she encourages Silas to go to church – something he has not done since he

was banished from it but she is also gentler and more genuinely sympathetic.

- A next Year, a party is held at the Squire s house. The Squire forces Godfrey to ask Nancy Lammeter, whom he Loves, for the first dance. Obviously he cannot ask her to marry him because of his secret marriage; besides, she seems cold to him because of the way he has been behaving to her.
- While the party goes on Molly Farren is making her way through the snow to the Squire s house with her child, intending to confront Godfrey and Squire with the truth. She has a craving for the drug she uses, takes it and is overcome by a desire to lie down and sleep. She does this, but the child wakes and sees a light. This comes from the open door of Silas' s cottage he has taken to leaving it open, hoping his gold may return as mysteriously as it vanished. The child makes her way to the cottage and falls asleep in front of the fire. Silas has had one of his cataleptic fits and as a result does not see the child come-on in.
- When he comes to his consciousness, he saw her already asleep by his hearth, and is as stunned by her appearance as he was from the disappearance of his

money. A while later, Silas traces The girl's footsteps outside and finds Molly 's body lying in the snow.

- Silas goes to the Squire s house to find the doctor, and causes a stir in the dance when he arrives with the baby girl in his arms.
- Godfrey , recognizing his daughter, accompanies the doctor to Silas' s cottage. When a doctor declares that Molly is dead, Godfrey realizes that his secret is safe. He does not claim his daughter and Silas adopts her.
- Silas grows increasingly attached to the child and names her Eppie. She begins to serve as a bridge between Silas and the rest of the villagers. Eppie also brings Silas out of the benumbed state he fell into after the loss of his gold.
- The novel jumps ahead sixteen years. Godfrey has married Nancy and the Squire died. Godfrey has inherited His father's house, but he and Nancy have no children. Their one daughter died at birth and Nancy has refused to adopt, and Eppie grows into a beautiful girl and is happy that Aaron-Winthrop wants to marry her.

- Eppie discovers the stone pit next to Silas's cottage is nearly empty. Godfrey has decided to drain it, as he has taken up dairy farming.
- Godfrey comes back to tell Nancy that when the stone pits have been drained Dunstan's body has been found with the gold he had stolen from Silas.
- Godfrey has suggested adopting Eppie, but Nancy has thought this would be going against God's will (because they have no children). He then confesses that Eppie's mother was his wife and Eppie is his child. Nancy agrees that he should do his duty to Eppie and they go to Silas's cottage.
- Godfrey first says he wants to compensate for his brother's crime by relieving Silas of Eppie and bringing up of her as his child, but Eppie says she would not leave Silas. She can only think of one person as her father, and that is Silas.
- Godfrey says he is her father, whereupon Silas reproaches him for not acknowledging her sixteen years ago.
- Godfrey and Nancy decide not to reveal his relationship to Eppie; he recognizes a divine retribution in the childlessness of his marriage.

- The next day, Silas decides to visit Lantern Yard to see if he was ever cleared of the theft of which he was accused years before. The town has changed almost beyond recognition, though, Silas's old chapel has been torn down to make to make for a new factory.
- He is content with the sense of faith he has regained through his life with Eppie.
- The summer Eppie is married to Araon, Dolly's son. Araon comes to live in Silas's cottage, which has been expanded and refurbished at Godfrey expense.